

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the above-identified Application is respectfully requested. Claims 13, 14 and 17-22 are in the case. Claims 13, 14 and 17-19 have been amended. Claim 10 has been canceled.

Regarding the rejection of Claims 10, 13, 14 and 17-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Erb in view of Igarashi, this rejection is respectfully traversed in part, with Claim 10 having been canceled, thus rendering this rejection moot with respect thereto. All of the claims under this rejection now include the limitation of the steps of determining an overlap interval, determining if the overlap interval is a valid interval, calculating a value for each line based on the overlap interval if the overlap interval is valid, comparing the values for each line if the overlap interval is valid, and detecting line crossover based on the comparison if the overlap interval is valid. Neither Erb nor Igarashi, nor, indeed, do any of the art of record show or suggest these important steps of the claimed invention. For example, Erb, as pointed out in the above-mentioned Office Action bases his crossover based on determining a starting and ending point for each line. By determining only an overlap interval, computational efficiencies important to a calculator, which generally has more limited computational power than, for example, the sophisticated workstations for which the technique of Erb was designed (see Erb, col. 3, ll. 11-24). It is therefore respectfully submitted that for the above reasons Claims 13, 14 and 17-20 are allowable over Erb, Igarashi and, indeed, all of the art of record, whether considered alone or in any combination. Wherefore reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

Regarding the rejection of Claims 21 and 22 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Erb in view of Igarashi and further in view of Gosper, this rejection is respectfully traversed. Claims 21 and 22 also include the limitations of Claim 13. The reasons for the allowability of Claim 13, from which Claims 21 and 22 depend indirectly, over Erb and Igarashi are set forth

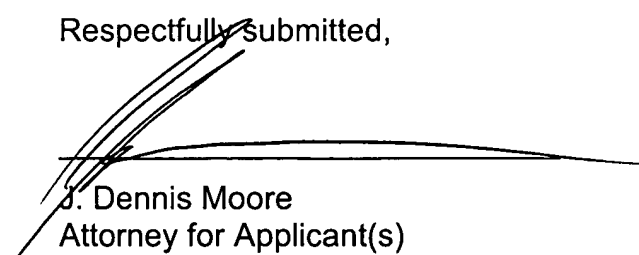
above. The technique of Gosper, like that of Erb, uses the end points of the lines, not and overlap interval. Therefore, the reasons set forth above for the allowability of Claim 13, and therefore Claims 21 and 22, over Erb and Igarashi apply as well for their allowability over Gosper. It is therefore respectfully submitted that for the above reasons Claims 21 and 22 are allowable over Erb, Igarashi, Gosper and, indeed, all of the art of record, whether considered alone or in any combination. Wherefore reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

It is respectfully submitted that the claims recite the patentably distinguishing features of the invention and that, taken together with the above remarks, the present application is now in proper form for allowance. Reconsideration of the application, as amended, and allowance of the claims are requested at an early date.

While it is believed that the instant amendment places the application in condition for allowance, should the Examiner have any further comments or suggestions, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact the undersigned in order to expeditiously resolve any outstanding issues.

To the extent necessary, the Applicants petition for an Extension of Time under 37 C.F.R. §1.136. Please charge any fees in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees to the Deposit Account No. 20-0668 of Texas Instruments Incorporated.

Respectfully submitted,



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